



Emergency Contact Information

Gallatin County Sheriff (618) 269-3137
Hardin County Sheriff (618) 287-2271
Pope County Sheriff (618) 683-4321
Saline County Sheriff (618) 252-8661
Emergency cellphone service may not be available in all map areas

National Forest Contact Numbers

Hidden Springs Ranger District
602 N. First Street
Route 45 North
Vienna, IL 62995
(618) 658-2111

Forest Supervisor's Office
50 Highway 145 South
Harrisburg, IL 62946
(618) 253-7114
(800) 699-6637

Shawnee National Forest

Hiker/Equestrian Trails Map

Trails Designation Project Area

Lusk Creek and Upper Bay Creek Watersheds
Eddyville Vicinity

Trail Conditions Hotline 618-658-1312

To report trail conditions and obtain updated information regarding wet-weather closures in the Lusk Creek Wilderness

WWW.SNFFRIENDS.ORG
FRIENDSOFTHESHAWNEE@GMAIL.COM

Shawnee National Forest website: www.fs.usda.gov/shawnee

Map 9 Jackson Falls

Scale 1:24000

Map 6

Map 7 Salt Peter Cave Area

Scale 1:14000

Map 8 Jackson Hole and Double Branch Hole

Scale 1:24000

Highlines in the Lusk Creek Wilderness

High Line	Latitude	Longitude	Access Trails
Indian Kitchen	37° 30' 53" N	88° 32' 28" W	433, 405
Owl Bluff (High Point)	37° 31' 20" N	88° 32' 37" W	001
Natural Bridge	37° 32' 02" N	88° 32' 33" W	457, 481
Secret Canyon	37° 32' 20" N	88° 31' 49" W	457

Other highlines in the Lusk Creek Watershed

Rock House	37° 29' 31" N	88° 31' 33" W	409
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Bay Creek Watershed Highlines

Crow Knob	37° 29' 55" N	88° 37' 56" W	001
Sand Cave	37° 30' 00" N	88° 38' 52" W	030
Hoyes Creek	37° 29' 10" N	88° 37' 19" W	496
Petticoat Junction	37° 29' 45" N	88° 36' 39" W	496, 001
Jackson Hole	37° 30' 40" N	88° 36' 32" W	497

What is a Natural Area?

The Shawnee National Forest sits at the edge of an ecological crossroads. The Forest lies just south of a vast area that was once covered by glaciers. When the glaciers receded, the changes to land form and plant and animal communities that occurred in more northerly areas had less of an impact here. No less than five distinct regional ecological types all converge in southernmost Illinois resulting in the presence of a tremendous diversity in flora and fauna. The unique blend of geologic and natural diversity make many areas of the Shawnee National Forest a kind of living museum of natural history. To ensure the long term survival of this diversity twenty-five distinct rare natural plant and animal communities are protected in a series of 80 Natural Areas (NA) that exist all across the Forest.

Natural Areas are most easily identified by boundaries marked with slender, yellow, flexible posts. On the Interim Trails Map they are depicted by light yellow shading. These areas are managed for the preservation, protection or enhancement of their unique scientific, educational or natural values. Any recreational use must be consistent with the protection of these values. Use with stock is rarely authorized in these areas and only on the designated equestrian trails shown on this map. While foot travel is welcome, overnight camping, building open campfires and rock climbing or rappelling are prohibited.

Lusk Creek is what is known as a Zoological Area (ZA), from bank to bank, beginning near the northern tip of the Lusk Creek Wilderness. The sites where trails cross Lusk Creek have been chosen, and the trail approaches are being hardened, to mitigate impacts to this important stream. Please look for signs identifying the following authorized crossings of Lusk Creek:

Designated Trail Crossings of the Lusk Creek Zoological Area	Crossing	Latitude	Longitude
Blanchard Crossing	37° 32' 43" N	88° 32' 18" W	
Natural Bridge Crossing	37° 32' 09" N	88° 32' 46" W	
Saltpeter Cave Crossing	37° 32' 07" N	88° 32' 53" W	
Old Guest Farm Crossing	37° 31' 47" N	88° 32' 40" W	
Bowed-Tree Crossing (River-to-River Trail Crossing)	37° 31' 32" N	88° 33' 00" W	
Rock House Crossing (closed until new trail can be constructed)			

Lusk Creek, Bay Creek and Garden of the Gods Wilderness Areas

Included on this map are three wilderness areas that were designated by Congress in 1990 under the law set forth in the Wilderness Act of 1964. The Lusk Creek, Bay Creek and Garden of the Gods wilderness areas encompass 13,484 acres of the Shawnee National Forest. In keeping with the Wilderness Act, these areas contain special provisions for hikers and riders who wish to visit them.

What is a Congressionally Designated Wilderness?

A wilderness area is managed to protect the environment in its natural state in perpetuity. It is a place that should be affected only by the forces of nature. Primitive and challenging recreation is encouraged in wilderness, and the management of wilderness is designed to preserve opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation both for us and for generations to come.

Special Provisions for Wilderness Use

Special provisions are enforced in wilderness to control the impacts of recreational use. Wilderness visitors are asked to share the responsibility for preserving the character of wilderness by educating themselves on hiking, riding or camping techniques that preserve solitude and primitive recreation as well as the natural plant and animal communities that exist in these areas. The following regulations apply to the Lusk Creek, Bay Creek and Garden of the Gods Wilderness Areas:

- All saddle, pack or draft animals should be kept on trails designated for stock use, or in designated stock confinement areas (high lines). These trails and areas are depicted on this map. Hiking is welcome anywhere.
- Mechanized equipment and wheeled vehicles, including carts, wagons or bicycles, are not allowed in wilderness areas on the Shawnee National Forest.
- Camping with livestock is not allowed within the Lusk Creek, Bay Creek or Garden of the Gods Wilderness Areas.

Wilderness

WILDERNESS AMERICANS ENDURING RESOURCE

Wilderness visitors possibly face inherent risks when entering wilderness such as, adverse weather conditions, isolation, physical hazards, and lack of rapid communications, etc. Search and rescue efforts may not be as rapid as expected in an urban setting.

Please learn, practice, and pass on Leave No Trace outdoor skills and ethics.

Following these principles will help protect precious backcountry resources:

- Plan ahead and prepare
- Travel and camp on durable surfaces
- Dispose of waste properly
- Leave what you find
- Minimize campfire impacts
- Respect wildlife
- Be considerate of other visitors

For more information on Leave No Trace, call 1-800-332-4100
WWW.LNT.ORG

Legend

Scale 1:48000

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- Parking Area
- Parking Area (Hiker Only)
- Trailhead (Hiker/Equestrian)
- Trailhead (Hiker Only)
- Horse Camps
- Horse Highline Area
- System Trail (Hiker/Equestrian)
- System Trail (Ride Through Only)
- System Trail (Hiker Only)
- River to River System Trail
- River to River System Trail/Road
- Existing Roads*
- * Road conditions vary widely; many are not passable by motor vehicle
- Project Boundary Area
- Streams
- Lusk Creek ZA
- Natural Areas
- Wilderness Boundary
- National Forest Land
- Non-National Forest Land
- Four-Watershed Area

Color Coding for Labels

- Ride Through Only
- Hiker Only
- Highline
- Hiker/Equestrian Trailhead
- Hiker Only Trailhead
- Lusk Creek Crossing
- Landmark
- Natural Area
- Private Campground

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